

CT General Assembly  
Hartford CT

March 3, 2022

RE: OPPOSE SB184 / HB5262

Dear Assembly Members,

I am writing today to ask you to OPPOSE SB184 and HB5262.

I do not agree to the proposed changes to Section 9-135 of the supplement to the general statutes, specifically that the verbiage “during all of the hours of voting; (3) such elector’s or person’s” and replacing it with “(3)” so that a very loose definition of “illness” is in place.

Our state constitution is very clear that registered voters who are unable to vote on election day will be able to vote by mail for well-defined reasons: absence from the city or town of residence during all hours of voting, personal illness, religious grounds, active service, and service as an election official outside of voting district. Changing this language allows for interpretation of sickness to be any sickness to any person or persons anywhere. Using covid as a reason to change this statute is a serious abuse of power.

I am concerned if this language were to change as proposed, this would allow for mass no-excuse ballots to be sent to the voters of Connecticut as they were in 2020. Currently Connecticut is not set up with safeguards necessary to ensure election integrity. It would be irresponsible and a violation of our democracy to commence these changes to our elections without the proper checks and balances in place.

Additionally, I am concerned about the financial and environmental impact sending unsolicited ballots to 2.4 million Connecticut voters would have. The postage and paper cost would be in the millions of dollars, and as a taxpayer, I don’t agree this is a shrewd way to spend our hard-earned money. I also believe, that in an age when we encourage individuals and companies to “Go Paperless”, this unnecessary paper waste is unacceptable.

I encourage you all to vote NO.

Warm Regards,

Kim Wallace  
Andover CT